

March 4, 1974

PRESIDENT: The question is then, do you want to approve all four of the names. If so, vote aye. If no, vote no. Go ahead. If you're in favor of the appointments, vote aye. If not, vote no. You're voting on the confirmation of the four appointments as outlined by Senator Whitney. Have you all voted? Voting on the confirmation of the four appointments as outlined by Senator Whitney. Okay, Clerk will record.

CLERK: 29 ayes, no nays, 20 not voting.

PRESIDENT: The appointments are confirmed.

CLERK: Okay now, Mr. President, we have pending a motion from Senator Frank Lewis on LB843. His motion is to place it on General File notwithstanding the committee action. The motion is found in the Journal on page 769.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Frank Lewis.

SENATOR FRANK LEWIS: Mr. President, how many are here today?

PRESIDENT: Stand by. We have 37 present, Senator Lewis. 38 it looks like now.

SENATOR FRANK LEWIS: Well, we'll give it a shot. How many are excused?

PRESIDENT: Four or five. Hold on just a minute. Four.

SENATOR FRANK LEWIS: Mr. President, I have delayed this for several days now and I think the time is high. Mr. President, you have a letter on your desk and there's one correction from the NSEA, Nebraska State Education Association. That correction is in line 1, that should be a Class 3. First of all, I'm very reluctant to take this Body's busy time to ask that the bill be placed on General File. However, it was a very close vote in the committee. I think that there's a couple of things we should know about LB843. First of all, LB843 is to make it possible for an orderly procedure in a negotiation. As you know, the Court of Industrial Relations has already said that under certain circumstances, negotiations must take place if the board does not do so. The problem we're having now is the fact that several of these cases are going to the court simply on refusal to negotiate and obviously they can go directly to the court as an industrial settlement. So by the board's failure to negotiate certainly it doesn't solve anything. The only thing it does, it speeds it up, gets the pressure off the court and I would certainly like to have the opportunity to fully discuss and explain and debate this bill on the floor of the Legislature. And I know there's a number that feel the same way and I think it's something that's necessary. It's a corrective measure, you're simply not voting where the negotiations are going to take place or settlements are going to take place because they already are and it's going to continue that way. This will allow the settlements to take place closer to home without the necessity of going to court to determine whether or not we're going to negotiate. So I'll confine my remarks at this time to hear those who might oppose it and then I'll have some other statements when I close.

PRESIDENT: The Chair will have to have a little bit of help here like I'm going to have to have a show of hands or something. I'm away from my board so I can't tell who wants to